THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has recommended C.B.I. enquiry against following NGOs for allegedly forging the recommendation of the State Government. Their applications were received for grant under the scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse for setting up of 30-bedded de-addiction centres:

(i) Vennela Educational and Rural Development Society, Khammam, Andhra Pradesh

(ii) Sahaya Welfare Association, Nalgonda, Andhra Pradesh

(iii) Jagruthi Educational & Community Development Society, Khammam, Andhra Pradesh

(iv) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Youth Association, Khammam, Andhra Pradesh

(v) Sharada Educational Society, Ranga Reddy, Andhra Pradesh

(vi) Chaitanya Yuvajana Sangham, Khammam, Andhra Pradesh

(vii) Rose Vimala Rural Organization for Women, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

(viii) Sivaranjani Educational Society, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

(d) Out of these 8 NGOs, 2 NGOs have taken grant from the Ministry during last two years under the scheme for welfare of Other Backward Classes.

(e) No such complaint has been received in the Ministry.

(f) Does not arise.

Employment of SC, ST and OBC in private sector

3932. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the proportion of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes employed in the private sector;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the steps taken by Government, so far, to increase the proportion of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes employed in the Private Sector; and

(c) the details of the proposals regarding affirmative action for the backward classes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Data on representation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes employed in the private sector is not available.

(b) and (c) A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted to examine the issue of affirmative action, including reservation in private sector, and to initiate a dialogue with industry to see how best the private sector can fulfill the aspirations of youth belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In May 2005, 21 captains of industry of the private sector had issued a statement wherein they have committed to expand their activities for disadvantaged persons with regard to scholarships, company-run private schools, partnership with government schools, vocational training in-house as well as in partnership with ITIs, vender development programmes etc. The GoM also considered the opinions of three legal luminaries that a law cannot be enacted for providing reservations in private sector without amending the Constitution.

Grants to old-age home

†3933. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government sanctions a grant of Rs. 3.79 lakh every year for subsistence of 25 old people in order to run old-age homes;

(b) whether this amount is not insufficient in view of the level of inflation at present;

(c) whether Government are considering to increase the aforesaid grant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.